Transportation of foodgrains

3713. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foodgrain stocks in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that FCI godowns are almost full with foodgrain stocks;

(c) if so, whether it is a fact that his Ministry has requested Railways to provide rakes for transportation of foodgrains;

(d) if so, whether it is also a fact that inspite of Railways consent to provide more rakes for transportation of foodgrains, his Ministry is failing to provide a list of destinations where the foodgrains have to be transported; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and by when the Ministry would transport foodgrains to desired destinations before arrival of fresh stock?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The stocks of rice and wheat in the Central Pool as on 30.06.2009 were 196.16 lakh tons and 329.22 lakh tons respectively.

(b) Due to record procurement of wheat and rice in RMS 2009-10 and KMS 2008-09, the stocks of foodgrains held by FCI have increased. Substantially as on 1.07.2009, there was 88% utilization of the storage capacity available with FCI.

(c) to (e) FCI plans the movement of foodgrains on monthly basis on the basis of the demand of the foodgrain by the States under TPDS and other schemes, availability of storage space, and buffer stocks in consuming/procuring region etc.

In case FCI faces problem in getting adequate number of Railway rakes, the issue is taken up with Railway Board.

Bogus ration cards

3714. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether bogus ration cards are adding to the woes of PDS system to function normally;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise especially in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the bogus ration cards identified so far during the last three years in each State especially in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the steps being taken to remove the bogus ration cards completely from each State especially from Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated jointly by Central and State/UT Governments. The responsibility for correct identification of eligible BPL families as per poverty estimates of Planning Commission and